

HOUSE of the SUN



Taamo



HOUSE of the SUN



by Taamo





----- Story 25 -----
First Love

5

----- Story 26 -----
Future

45

----- Story 27 -----
Little Sister

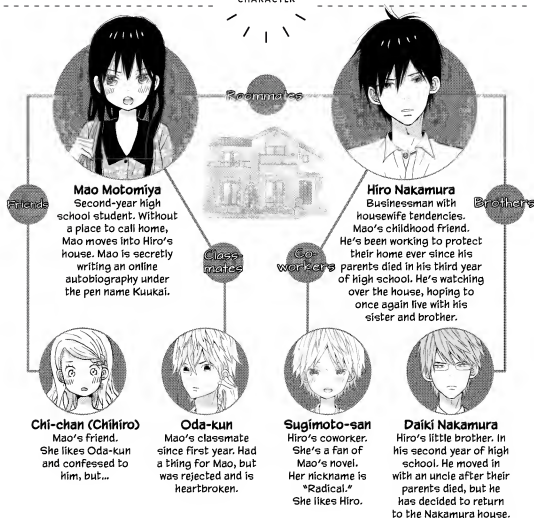
83

----- Story 28 -----
Office Retreat

121



CHARACTER



STORY

After her father gets remarried, Mao feels like she no longer has a home. Aiming for independence, she is now staying with her childhood friend Hiro. Hiro is kind and takes good care of her, and she begins to fall for him.

Mao is then confronted with her friend Radical-san's frank and direct emotions towards Hiro, and she finds her own feelings becoming stronger.

At the same time, Daiki moves back into the Nakamura home, harboring secret feelings for Mao. What will happen now that the two of them are in the same school, in the same class...?!

Hello, it's Taamo.
Thank you very much for
picking up volume seven!
I'll be so happy if you enjoy
reading it! Even though
I'm a *shoujo* manga artist,
sometimes the guys who read
my manga think I'm a man.





I'd never been to Sendai until
I went to do research for this,
but it's a super great place!
It was so cool, even though it was
summer. The food was really delicious,
too. I want to go back someday.

-Taamo



Well, see you again
in volume eight. Sorry
if my handwriting is
hard to read.



Hiro,
that's the
wrong
number.



...*"I have
a crush."*

...*just
to say...*

*Everyone else
thinks it's
so easy...*





*My hobbies
are writing gay
fanfiction of
Date Masamune
and Katakura
Kojuro! I'd die
before I'd tell
them that!*

*Date
Masamune
is my
type!*

SUGIMOTO

I'm sooo bad with 3D dudes lmao. I don't even want to go to work anymore... I just wanna sit in my house and be gross about Ma-kun.

RUIRUI

You can do it lol. I can't believe you're that bad w/ dudes. You okay? Ma-kun's so cute tho.

RUIRUI

A girl w/it together? lmao

SUGIMOTO

That's just the image I get! im too drunk I cant type right. Do you have a mic?

RUIRUI

I can't. >< Sorry!

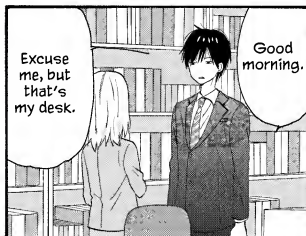
うん
PING

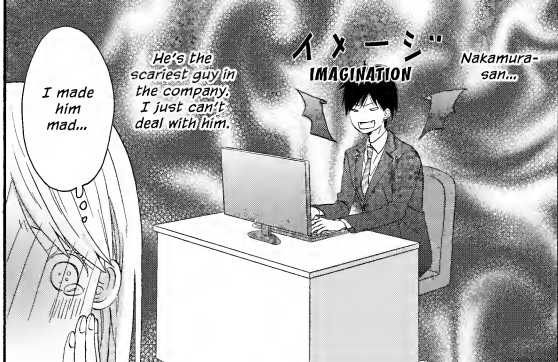
You seem
like a girl
who's really
on the ball,
Ruiri-
san... You
probably
just don't
get it.

TAPPA TAPPA
たぱ たぱ

I'm
not
okay!







RUIRUI

What the heck lol

PWING
ひょろ

SUGIMOTO

Well, his face is always like this: (一一)
and I just can't get close to him lol

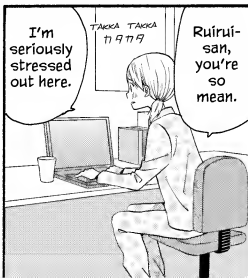
RUIRUI

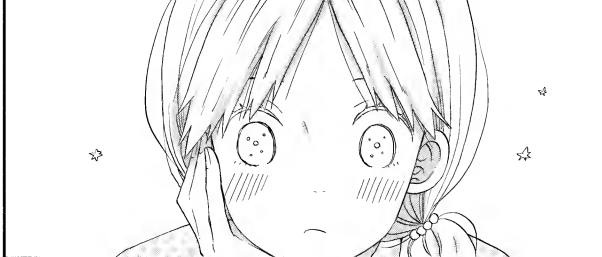
r u a kid lolllll

PWING
ひょろ

RUIRUI

Well, I'm seriously loling.
Deciding you don't like somebody before you really get a chance to talk to them is a waste, I think.

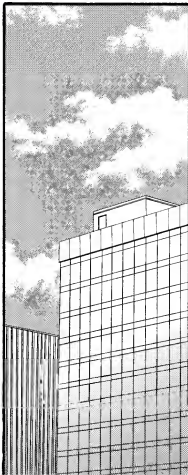


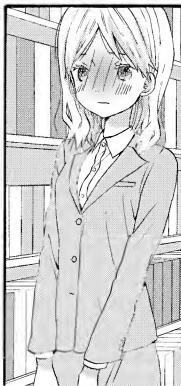


RUIRUI

If you talk to him, and he sucks, then Ma-kun and I can...

Or wait, just think about MasaKoji and forget about dumb real life lol







Horsing
around like
that.

They're
really
good
friends...



So you
want me
to lie?

Owwwww!

Cut
all
that
out!



What,
it's
true!

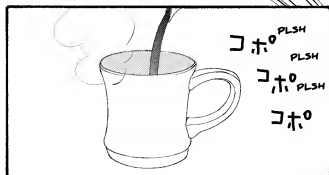
Why
youuuuu!



She's
really
staring
at us...

FANGIRL

ハモ★...

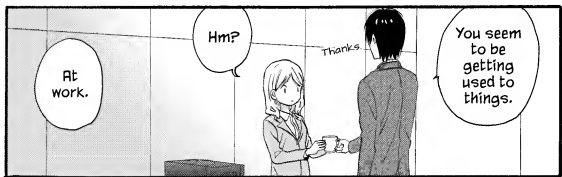
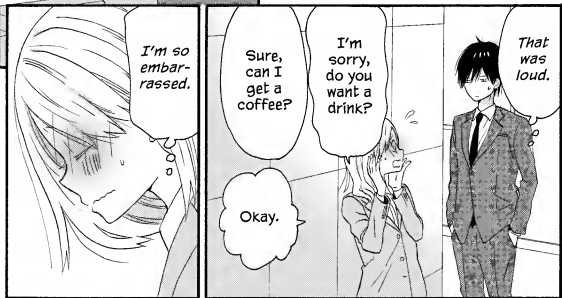


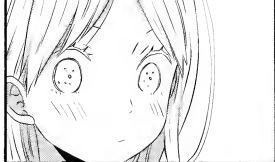
コホ°
コホ°
コホ°
コホ°



I know! If
I imagine
that they're
together and
Fujita-san is
the top with
Nakamura-san
as the bottom,
I won't
be afraid
anymore!

I can be
confident
because
the top and
bottom are
busy loving
each other!





Did you
make
up with
your
sister?

The power
bottom
complimented
me...

Thank
you very
much.



Your
work's
gotten
faster,
too.

Well, at
first
you
were so
stiff.



They
can act
stand-
offish.

Oh, I see.
I have a
little sister
back home,
too, so I
understand.

Oh, my
sister...
Haven't
heard from
her since
then.



And
thank
you very
much.

Yeah.

Me,
too.



I hope
you
two can
make up.

*...talking
normally
to him.*



*Whoa...
I'm...*



*...to
talk...*

*And
from
then
on...*

*...to
him...*

*...totally
normally...*

*...somehow
it was very
simple in
my brain...*

So I had
nothing to
talk about.

I did it. ...every day.

I'm a real nerd
who loves history
and boy's love...
I haven't got
anything that
would make a
normal person
fall in love
with me. I can
only talk to my
Internet friends.

I don't
even
watch
TV. I've
got no
cute
hobbies.

...so I
don't get
nervous
when I
talk to
him.

But Naka-
mura-san
doesn't ask
me questions
like that...

He
won't
embarrass
me by
calling
me cute,
either.

男と女の身体
MEN AND WOMEN'S BODIES

...so I
can't talk
about
relation-
ships.

I'm bad
with hair-
dressers,
too.

So have
you gone
into that
shop that
opened
up a little
while
ago?

I've
never
had a
crush
on
anyone
before...



What happened, Sugimoto-san?

Whoa/
Cute!

I had no experiences...

...to compare to...

...so I couldn't...

...get it.



I just wanted a change.

Eeki!

Thank you very much.



About how many boyfriends have you had, Sugimoto?

Oh, no, nothing like that.

So, did you find a boyfriend?

Don't tell me your heart was broken, Sugimoto?



No boyfriends.

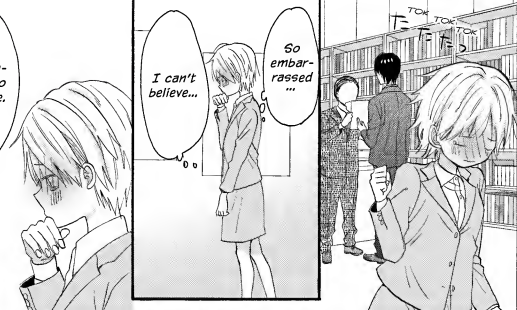
I've never even had one.



Nakamura-san had to rescue me.

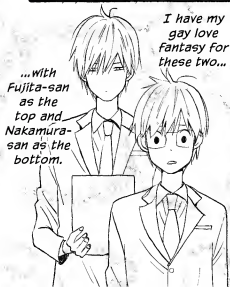
I can't believe...

So embarrassed...



YEEK!

Are you okay?



I have my gay love fantasy for these two...

...with Fujita-san as the top and Nakamura-san as the bottom.

You just look so pale!

You need a break?

I-I'm sorry, I'm fine.



*...I'm always
confident
that they're
in real love.*

*When it
comes to
my fantasy
settings...*



Yeah.

It's
very
nice.

Right,
Naka-
mura?

You
have
such
a nice
smile.

Smile,
smile!

And
yet...



*...somehow
I feel so
happy.*

*...when
Nakamura-san
compliments
me...*





We'll leave it to you.

The main coordinator of the corporate retreat will be Sugimoto, and Nakamura will be her helper.

*Guide to Sendai



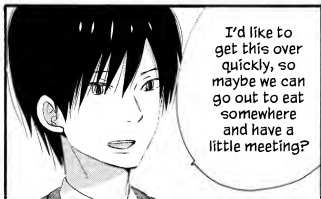
And I'll be going to Sendai with him, too!

Coordinating with Nakamura-san!



Guess I just gotta do it.

We can go to Aoba Castle and Ma-kun's grave, too.



I'd like to get this over quickly, so maybe we can go out to eat somewhere and have a little meeting?



It's nice we decided on Sendai, right, Sugimoto?

Are you kidding? It's not enough with just Daiki and Mao's school trip...?

Yes, sir!

Mao has been really nervous about Sugimoto-san lately...

I'd rather they not see each other.

We've been there a lot, can we go somewhere else?

Uhhh ...

Okay!

...So maybe we should go to that civil war-themed restaurant again!

I just know that if I want to get to know Nakamura-san better, I have to be brave enough to get to know Kuukai-san better, too.

*Iroha

いろは

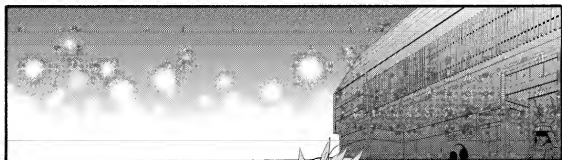
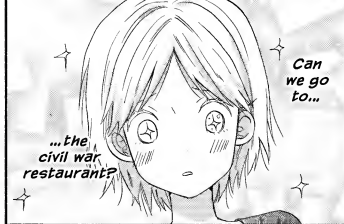
We're booked.

Sorry, we're full up.

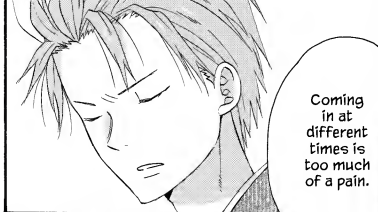
The wait is two hours.

Sorry.

...
If you say so.







Coming
in at
different
times is
too much of a pain.



That
makes it
all a lot
easier.

W
H
A
A
A
?!



Is it?



Black
Sato sake
on the
rocks...

What
else?

???

Is it
really?



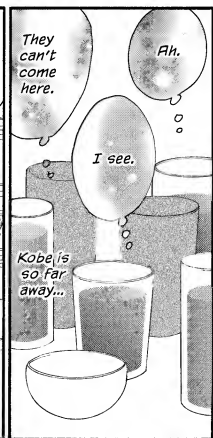
They'll
sleep.

But to be
honest,
that's not
a problem.



But if the
person you
like heard
about it...

...they
couldn't
sleep at
night.





Isn't it popular?

Why is this place so empty?

Oh, it's your brother!

'Sup.

It is but the two of you, I see?

We just happen to have seating today.

It's fairly popular, I think.

We're supposed to make plans for the corporate retreat.

Dumbass, you'll freak Sugimoto-san out.

Oh, not at all...

How very fitting a pair you are.

Yes.

So your
brother
really has
come home.

Oh,
yeah?

Under-
stood!

What
d'you
mean
'oh,
yeah'?

Anyway,
two draft
beers.

Ku-
Mao-
san...

...is living
with the
two of you.

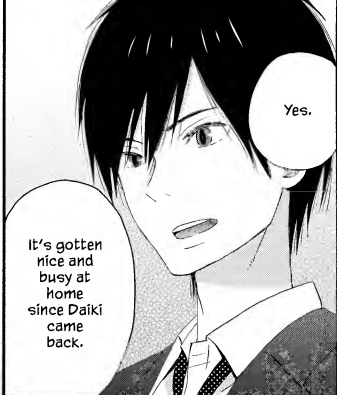
*That
must be
why he's
looked
so happy
lately.*



They're friends!

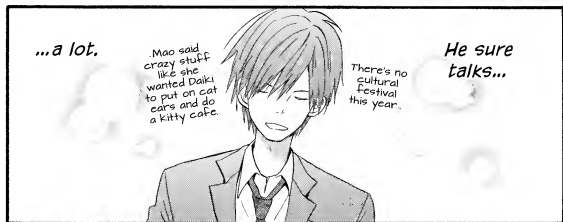
And the two of them are in the same class at school, too.

Friends...
Yeah, they are.



Yes.

It's gotten nice and busy at home since Daiki came back.



...a lot.

Mao said crazy stuff like she wanted Daiki to put on cat ears and do a kitty cafe.

There's no cultural festival this year..

He sure talks...



But instead, we've all been separated.



I wanted us all to live there together.

That house...

My parents built it because I selfishly asked them to.



*...make sure
that he's happy.*

...want to...

I really...



*...of why
he's so
happy
now?*

*...Kuukai-
san a
part...*

*I haven't
been thinking
of anyone
but myself.*

Is...



...I've
been
ignoring
Kuukai-
san's
feelings.

Even
just by
pushing
him to
come
here...

It might
have
bothered
him...

I've been
thinking
of nothing
but
pushing my
feelings on
him.



Let's
figure out
all that we
can today,
then go
home.

We've
already
ordered.

Huh?
What's
the
matter?

Do you
want to go
somewhere
else?

I'm
sorry...



I'm
sorry.







We've been asked to schedule the corporate retreat, so we came to have a meeting.

Mao-san... Um...



Did they make up?

...

Yes! We're going to Sendai! Ma-kun's Sendai!

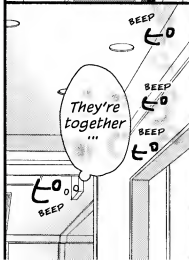
Corporate retreat...

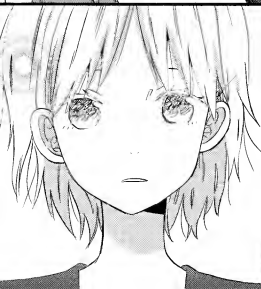


They're together ...

U-understood!

We've already managed to determine what we can for today, so we were thinking about getting the bill soon...







Yeah.

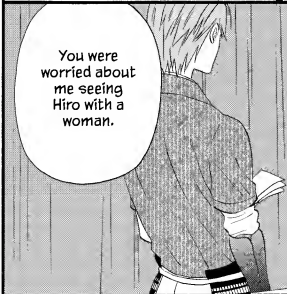


Mao.

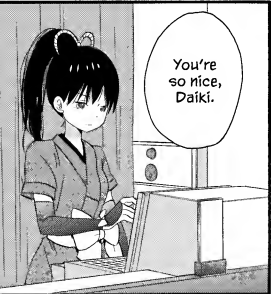
Did
Hiro go
home?



...



You were
worried about
me seeing
Hiro with a
woman.



You're
so nice,
Daiki.



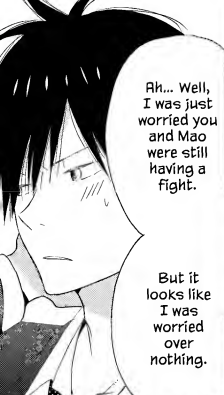
But
thanks
anyway.

I'm
fine.

Okay.



That's
got
nothing
to do
with it.



Ah... Well,
I was just
worried you
and Mao
were still
having a
fight.

But it
looks like
I was
worried
over
nothing.



Huh?



...about
Mao-san,
don't
you?

You
really
care...



I'm sorry.
You really
didn't want
to go to that
restaurant,
did you?



What does...

...that smile
mean?

I'm so
bad with
men...

When I first
started
at work, I
really hated
going in.

Yes! And
now it's
really fun
to come
to work!

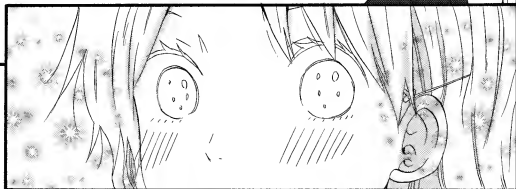
Yes.

I was so
scared
of you,
Nakamura-
san.

What?

Is that
really
true?

I guess
we've
cleared
up that
misunder-
standing.





*...what
I'm going
to do.*

*...I just
don't know...*

*...if it doesn't
go well...*

But...

I can't imagine it.

To Mao-chan:

*This weekend,
we're going to
have a birthday
party for your
little sister.*

*It's been a
while. How
are you
doing?*

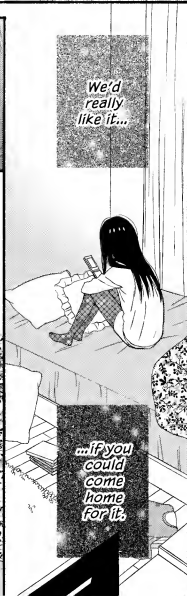


*We'd
really
like it...*



CLK
110
7
ニ

*...if you
could
come
home
for it.*





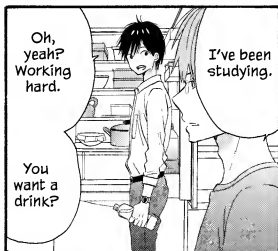


Yah!

Welcome home.



KACHIK
カチキ



Oh,
yeah?
Working
hard.

I've been
studying.

You
want a
drink?



Uh,
I'm
home.

Daiki
...

You're
still up?



The
woman
you
brought
to work
today.

Who
is?

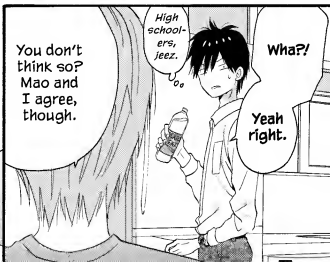
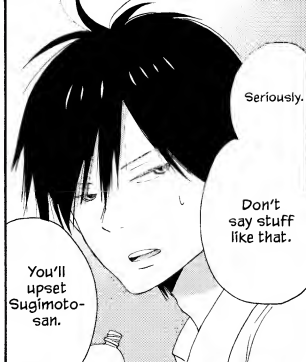


I think
she's
a good
person.

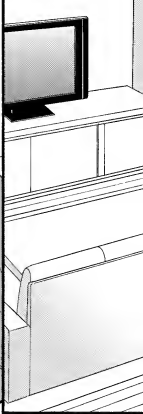


Thanks.

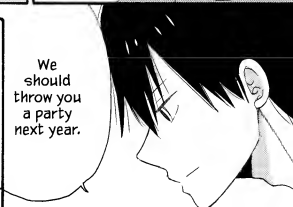
カチキ
KACHIK















Yeah.



I hope
you are.



You have
that
corporate
retreat...

H-
Hiro
...

You're
going?



Hm,
what's
with
that
flat
tone?

Oh,
yeah,
that's
right.



Well, I
better
go to
sleep.



Sugimoto-
san seems
pretty
happy
to go to
Sendai.



We'll,
we're
basically
obligated
to
attend.



I want
to go
see Hina.



*I bet
she was
really
worked
up like
crazy.*

Yeah, she
got all worked
up about
going to Date
Masamune's
this and that
during the
meeting.



That's
right... I
haven't had
a chance to
talk to my
own sister.



Yeah.

Oh, is
that
it?



That
pose is
obnoxious!

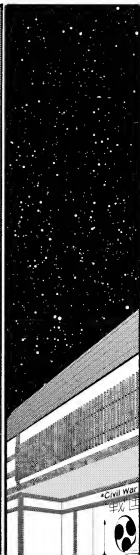
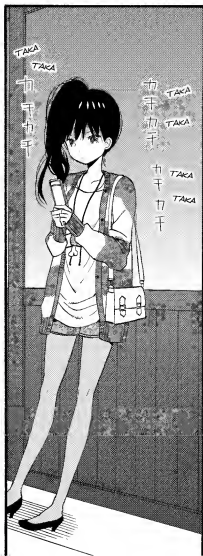
Good
night.



Good
night!

We
both
have to
do our
best!

I'll go
to bed,
and you
should,
too!





He's
not
here
yet?

S'cuse
me!

Maybe
I'll have
Daiki
take a
look.



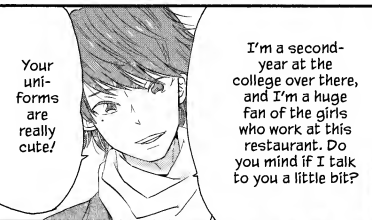
Too
stiff?
Yeah.

"I'll
come!"

Too
light?
Yeah.

"I plan to
attend the
function..."

カ
タ
カ
カ
TAKA TAKA



Your
uni-
forms
are
really
cute!

I'm a second-
year at the
college over there,
and I'm a huge
fan of the girls
who work at this
restaurant. Do
you mind if I talk
to you a little bit?



You
work
here,
don't
you?

?



Is he
picking
me up? Is
that it?!

Wh-
what is
this?!

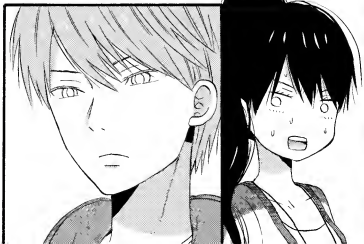
Mao.

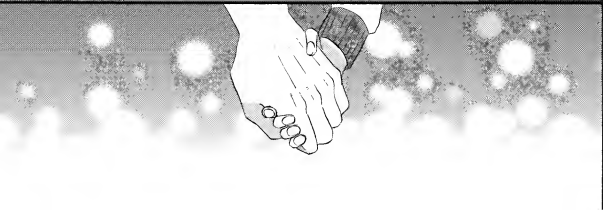
Can you get
the other
girls so I can
take a pic?

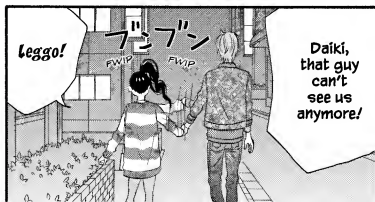
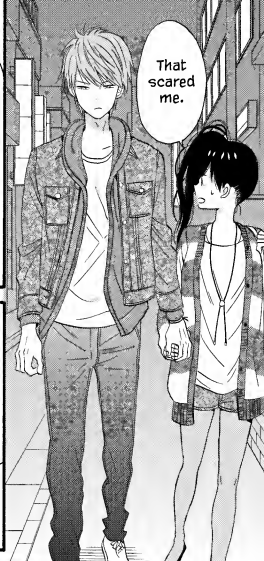
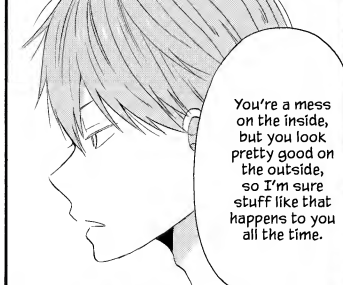


Yes.

He's a
regular
cus-
tomer.



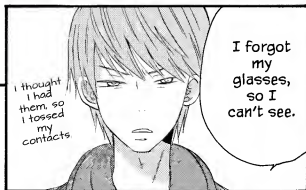






Why
aren't
you
walking?

What's
wrong?



I thought
I had
them, so
I tossed
my
contacts.

I forgot
my
glasses,
so I
can't see.



Okay.



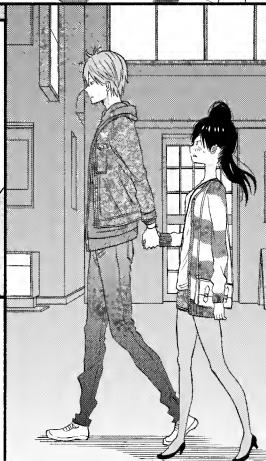
I can't see
your face
unless I get
about this
close to you.

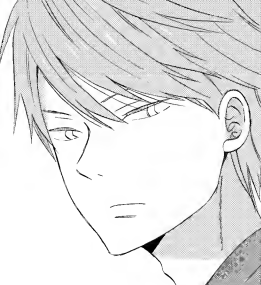
Whaaa?!
That's
way too
close!



Are your
eyes
really
that
bad?

It's
not like
you to
forget
stuff.



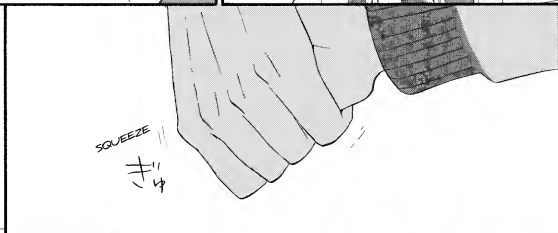


I
want
to
touch
him...

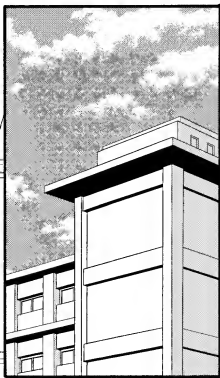
But I
can't
think
like
that...



Come to
think of it,
I haven't
touched
him lately.



A
birthday
present?





You want me to go with you?



And stationary.

Hmm...

She really likes Pretty Cure*.

Don't you have a little sister at home? What do you think?

*Pretty Cure is an anime for little girls. Glitter Force in the U.S.



Thanks, I'll write that down.



Motomiya-saaan? Can we talk to you?

Oda-kunnn?



Hey... I'm a girl, so I would definitely know better than you, Daiki...

And Hina's a third-year in middle school.

I have a sister, so I might know better than you.

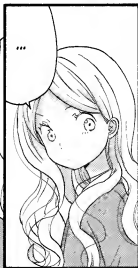
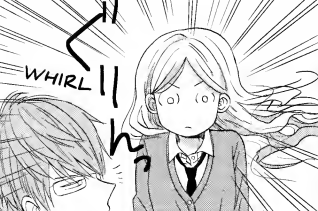


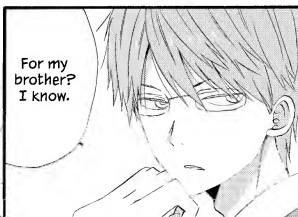
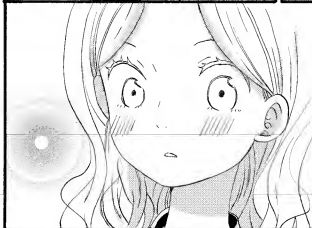
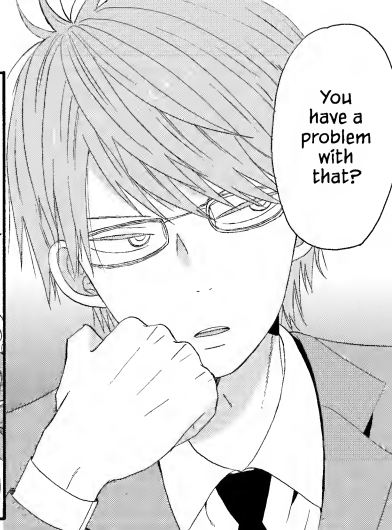
I really like it...

...but maybe that's good.

And wrap it up yourself.

Then why not give her that Chonmame stationary set you haven't used?





Whaaa?!
How
did you
know?!

Right,
you like
Oda.

My feelings
are one-
sided, too, so
I understand.

Wow...
It must
be
really
tough.

It's
pretty
obvious.

What
do you
mean,
why?

Why?

Because
he
turned
me
down.

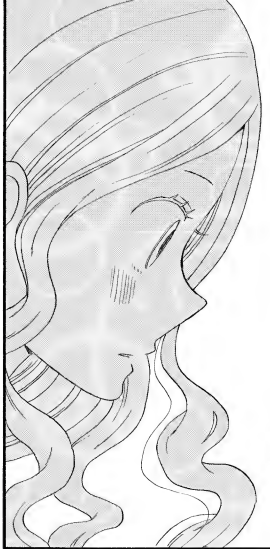
I wasn't
really
trying to
be obvious
about
things,
myself.

Whaaa?

I'm so
embar-
rased
...!
I can't
believe
you saw
through
me.

I really
should
give up
on him.

I
don't
know
what
to do.

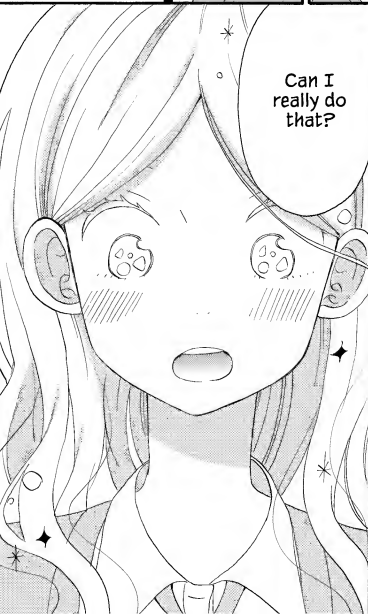




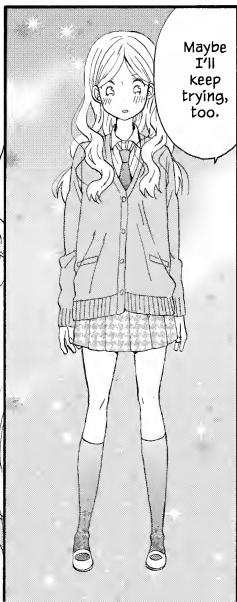
I don't
really
feel like
I need to
give up at
this point.



You haven't
given up,
either, have
you, Daiki-
kun?



Can I
really do
that?



Maybe
I'll
keep
trying,
too.



I didn't do anything.



Thanks, Daiki-kun.



I'd just die if they were getting all flirty and touchy in the house I lived in.

But it must be a struggle.

Mao and Hiro-san...



Besides, they're not dating or anything.

Hiro's pretty serious about weird stuff like that.

They don't do that.



You think so? Really?

They might be doing weird stuff while you're not around.

...he'd probably smile and cheer me on.

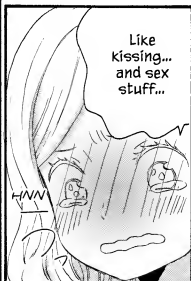
In fact, I think if Hiro knew how I felt about Mao...



She's
got a
dirty
mind...

That's my
brother
she's
thinking
about!

I'd just
dieeeeeeee!



Like
kissing...
and sex
stuff...



And then they said
"Good, because you
two make a bad match,"
and finally they started
a line to confess to Oda
right in front of me.

They
wanted to
know if
Motomiya
and I are
dating.

They
told me
they
liked me.



Welcome
back.
What's
up?

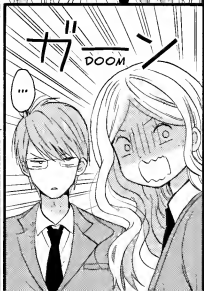
We're
back.



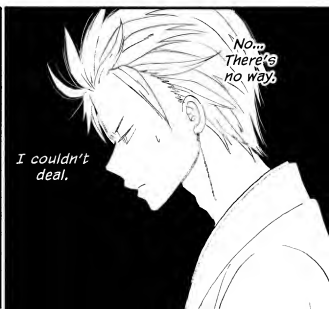
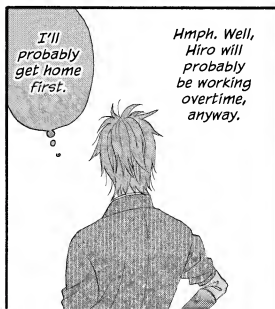
Seriously.

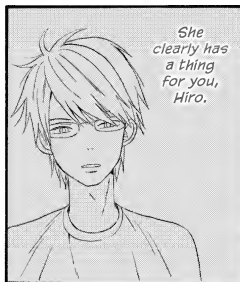
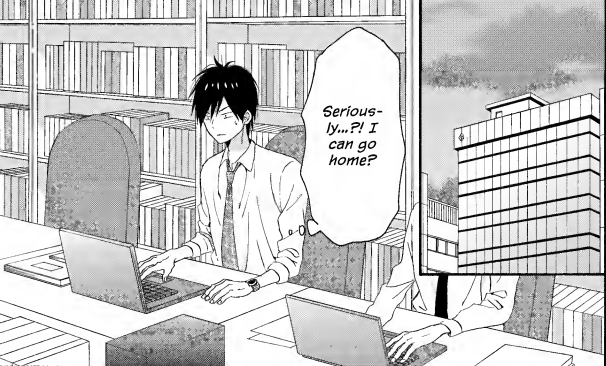
Man...
Why am
I so
popular?

I
turned
them
down.



カ
DOOM
ノ

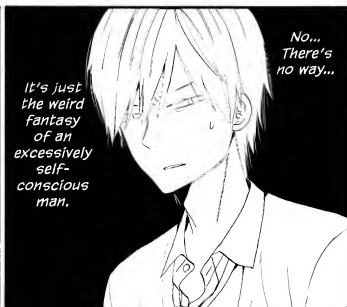




She clearly has a thing for you, Hiro.

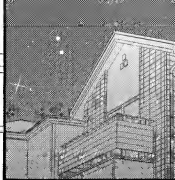


Daiki and Mao just think too much, that's all.



No... There's no way...

It's just the weird fantasy of an excessively self-conscious man.



Yeah.
I was
surprised,
too.

Ooh,
I smell the
particular
aroma of a
Mao-made
dinner.

**I made
a special
meal!**

Welcome
back.
You're
early.

Still at
work.

PANT
PANT

Where's Daiki?

I'm home.

*We're
alone
together
for the
first time
in a while.*

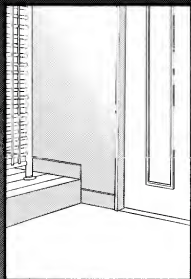
000

PANT

Does
he
even
have
time to
study?







Fine...
But
just a
little.



...

Cut it
out,
Mao, not
there.

!!



I'm
home!

How
about
here?
Is this
good?

Yeah.

Nothing
funny's
going
on!

No
way.

。イフ
GRR

イフ
GRR



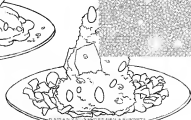




*He can
even give
a shoulder
massage...*



*He can
cook...*



*He's
good at
school...*



*Daiki
really
can do
anything.*



*...Hiro's
dream will
finally be
complete.*

*When
Hina-chan
moves
back here...*

*I haven't
forgotten...*

*He can do
anything...*

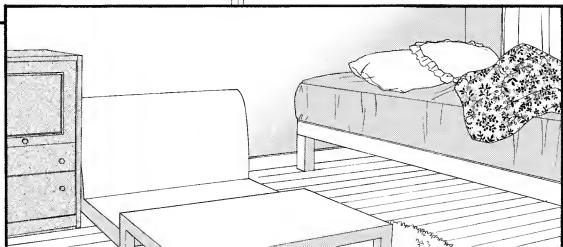
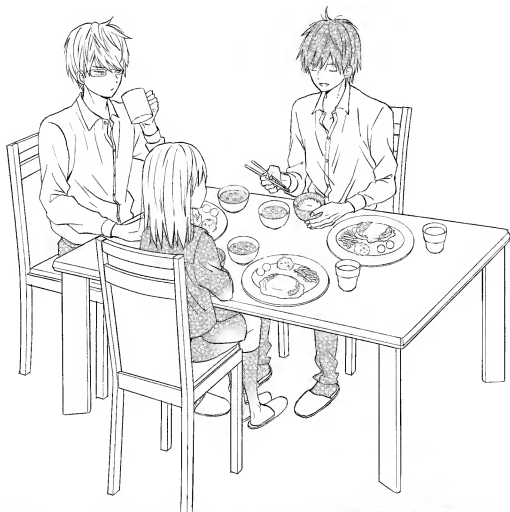
*He's
just...*

*...way
better
than
me.*



*...doesn't
include me.*

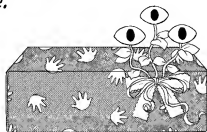
*Hiro's dream
of awakening
this house into
the future...*



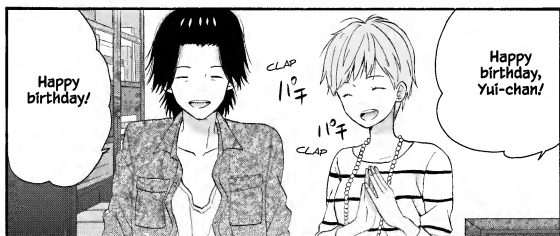


...work
towards my
own future.

I have to...







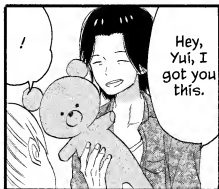




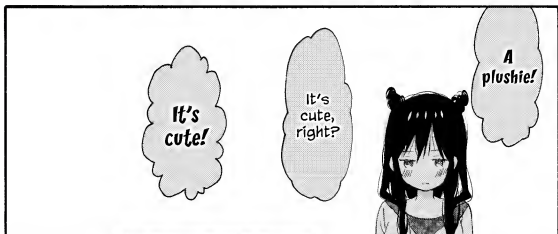
Are you trying to make her cry?

I thought it was cute...

I'm sorry...



Hey, Yui, I got you this.



It's cute!

It's cute, right?

A plushie!



It's good.



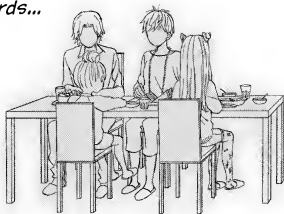
Oh, right.

Oh, Mao-chan, please eat.

The tomato soup came out well.

...won't come
out right.

The
words...

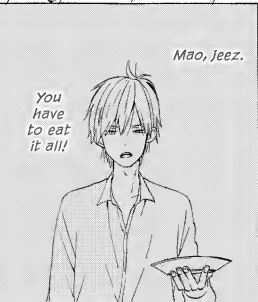


I wonder
what's
going
on at
Hiro's?



I said
I was
going to
talk to
her!

I can't
do this!
I just
can't!



Mao, jeez.

You
have
to eat
it all!



But she
didn't
even
like my
present.



...

...how hard
Hiro's worked
to make that
house a good
place for me
to be.



It's taken
me a while to
realize...



Let's
go.



ト
ン
ト
ン
KNOCK
KNOCK



Oh,
it's your
sister!



It's...



I'm sorry
about
the weird
present...!

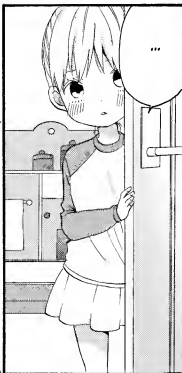


...

And...
What
else...?



Um...
Um...

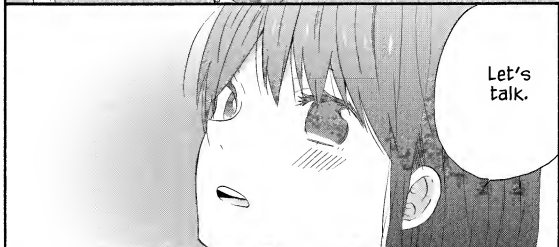


...





IF Hiro
were here,
he'd...



Let's
talk.



See, I like
doggies
with long
ears!

Yeah,
here!

Can
I see
some
more?

Uh-
huh.

And then,
Mi-chan...

...she
said my
drawings
were really
good!

Ooh,
cute!

What
cute
ears!





It was
'cause of
me you ran
away from
home, right?



Such a...

...little girl...

It's
not her
fault...

Really?



It's
not your
fault!

...I'm
sorry.

...was feeling
so bad...

...because of
my selfishness.

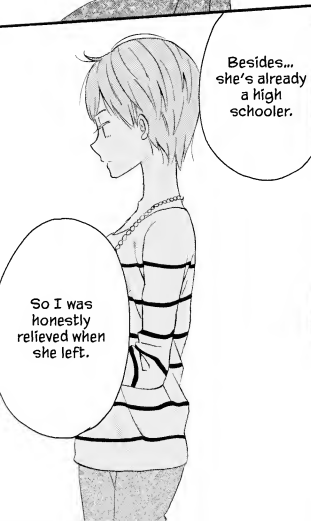






She ran
away all by
herself.

*And it's
not like
I drove her
out, either.*



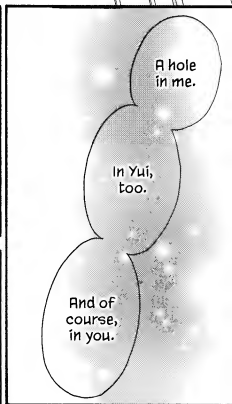
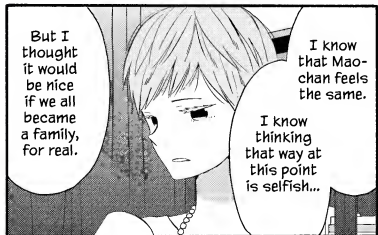
Besides...
she's already
a high
schooler.

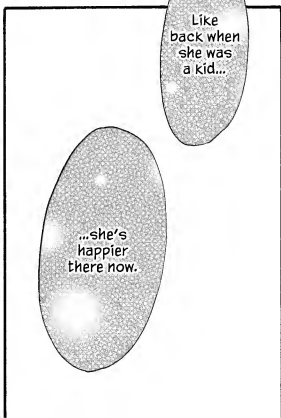
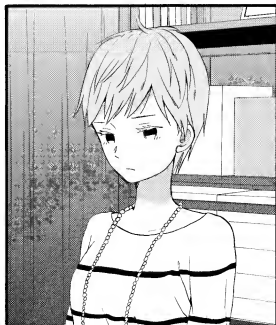
So I was
honestly
relieved when
she left.



You know,
somewhere
inside me,
I was always
thinking it'd
be nice if
Mao-chan
wasn't here,
too.

It was so
hard to be
alone with you
when Mao-chan
was around,
after all.







Do
you really
feel that
way?

Can you
teach me
how to
make it
next time?

That
tomato
soup was
really
good.

Th-
thanks.

Here,
Mao-
chan.

I boxed
up some
food for
you. Please
eat it.









Wait,
he
just
texted
me!

Okay,
time
to text
Hiro...!

From: Hiro
Subject:
There's a special
sale on eggs,
one per person,
so get in touch
when you're
coming home.

Oh!

There
you are,
Mao.

Jeez,
who does
Hiro think
I am?

He acts
like we're
family
already!









So you're really going home, Mao?



I just mean I'd miss you.

Well, sorry I was rude.



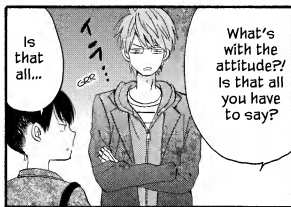
That's awfully rude.

Yeah, what he said!



I've gotten used to you being around, Mao. It'd be annoying if you just up and disappeared right now.

Especially at special deal times like this.





About
Mao
leaving.

About
what?

Are you
really
okay
with it?



So, how
do you really
feel, Hiro?



...As
practical
as ever.

Not as
much as
you.



Going
back home
is the best
possible
outcome
for Mao.

There's
no point
in her
hiding
out at
our place
forever.



So, let's
say...



Would
you be able
to support
us, Hiro?

...that Mao and
I start dating.
Then you'd be
able to hang
out with her
sometimes.



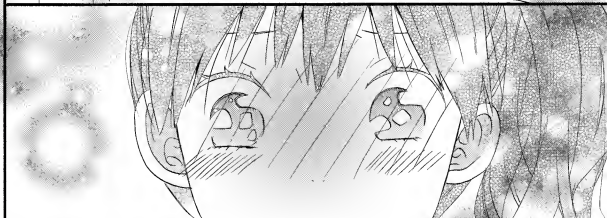
...Why?



Just
kidding.

...











Let's go home.

は ん

TRIP INFORMATION			
TRAVEL ITINERARY			
1	羽田空港	仙台空港	仙台
	21:00	06:00	07:00
	仙台	仙台城	瑞鳳殿
	08:00	09:00	10:00
2	宿	仙台市博物館	昼食
	12:00	13:00	14:00
	仙台街歩き	仙台空港	羽田空港
	15:00	16:00	17:00

BAM



It's an overnight, so they'll probably drink and go to the hot springs...

I see, I see.

5:00 P.M., arrive at lodgings ...!

Dinner's from 7:00 P.M....



Probably, yeah.

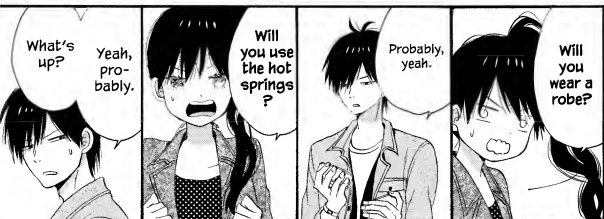
Hiro.

You'll be drinking on your trip...

All right, already.

What're you doing?

Just put that stuff in the fridge.



What's up?

Yeah, probably.

Will you use the hot springs?

Probably, yeah.

Will you wear a robe?



You're cute, Sugimoto-san.

I love you, Nakamura-san.

AAAAAAAAAH!

AAAAAAAAAH!





Huh,
you're
right.

All
alone...



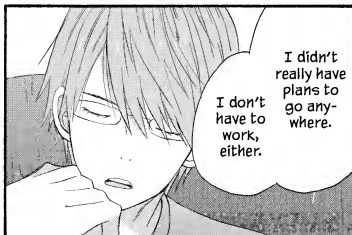
Come to
think of it,
we're going
to be all alone
while Hiro's
on his trip.

What do
you want
to eat?



Unless
you want to
go out? I'm
pretty good
at staying
home alone,
so you can
leave it
to me.

We have
to take
care of
Croquette,
so no.



I don't
have to
work,
either.

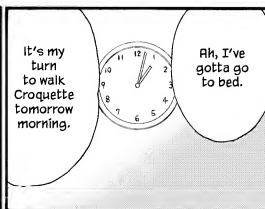
I didn't
really have
plans to
go any-
where.

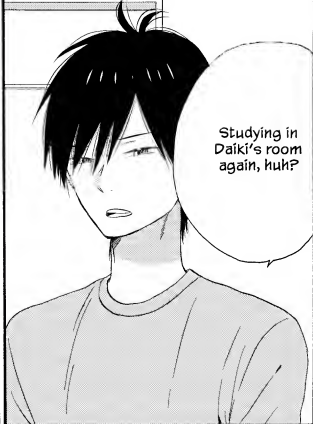


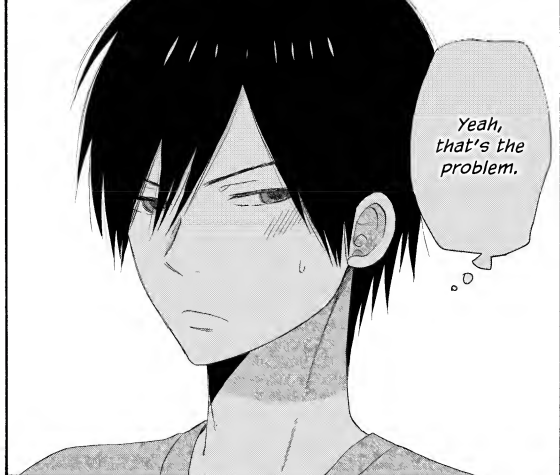
W H A A T ? !

Just so
you know,
I'll be
cooking
the food.

Or maybe
you want
to go out.













*I'll draw
on him! On
his face!
I'll draw
something
crazy!*



Close
my eyes?
Don't do
anything
weird.

Sit down
and close
your eyes.

You're
way too
suspicious
of me!

Because
you have
a long rap
sheet.



?

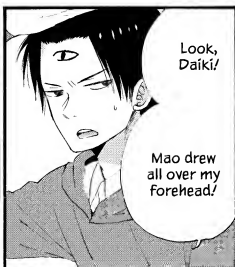
Hiro,
c'mere
for a
sec.



I want
to put a
spell on
you.

So things
will go well
with Hina-
chan.

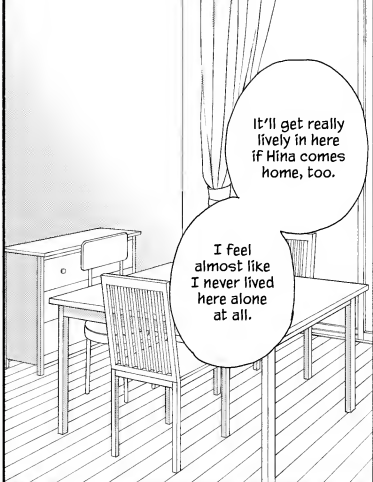






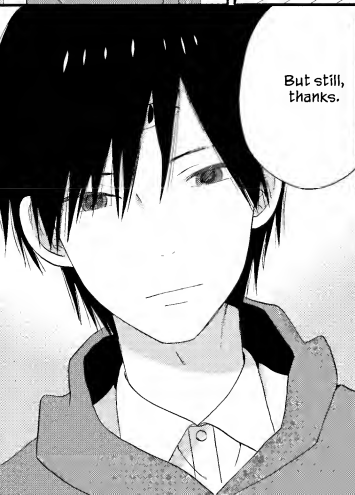


Thanks,
you two.



It'll get really
lively in here
if Hina comes
home, too.

I feel
almost like
I never lived
here alone
at all.



But still,
thanks.



That's
true.

This
is my
house,
too.

It's
weird
to be
thanked
...

Right,
I'm the only
freeloader
here.

Yep,
that's
also
true.





Take good
care of
Croquette
and Mao.

Call me
if anything
happens.

Got
it.

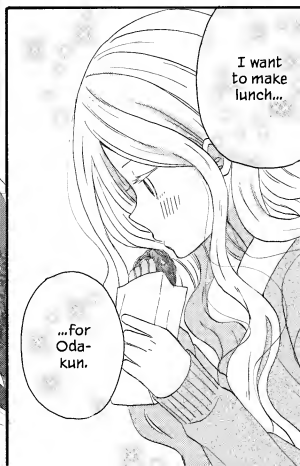
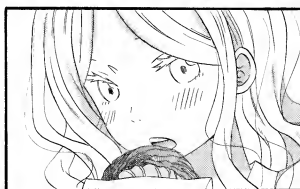
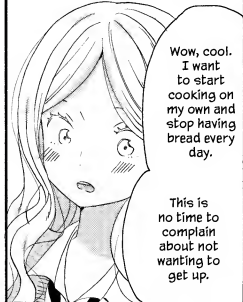
Have
fun.

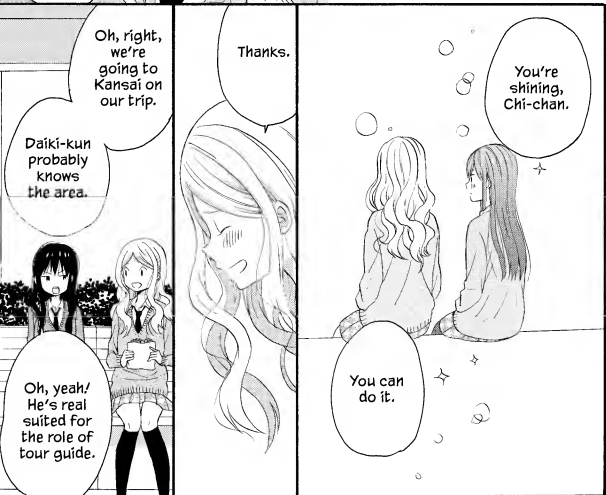
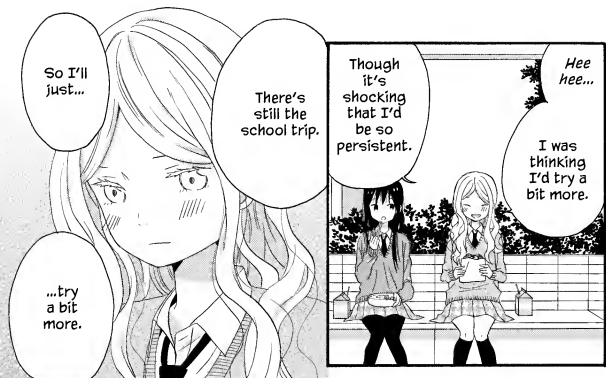
I mean,
they're at a hot
springs resort!
They'll be wearing
robes? It's so
dramatic!

Hmmm,
going on
a trip with
Radical-
san, huh?

That's a
bummer.

You
said it.













Aaah!

It's so
awesome!

*Edomame paste



I
thought
there'd
at least
be some
stone
walls
left.

I want
beef
tongue

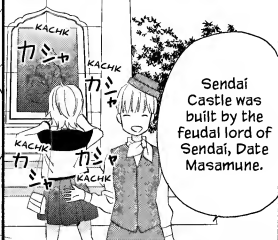
I want
to eat
zundax

Not
much to
Sendai
Castle,
is there?





I want
photos from
every single
angle, 360
degrees!



Sendai
Castle was
built by the
feudal lord of
Sendai, Date
Masamune.



Oh,
I'm
fine!

The view
from the
angle over
there is very
good for
photos.



Huh?!



You want
me to take
one with you,
Sugimoto-
san?



She's
super
hyped up.



In front of
Ma-kun?! What
do I do?!

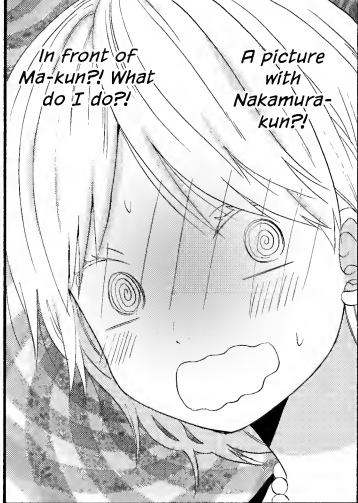
A picture
with
Nakamura-
kun?!



He
meant
with
me in
it...

Thank
you so
much.

Here
you go.



He
sur-
prised
me.

Oh,
yeah.



What?!
I don't
know what
you mean!

You're
really
in love,
aren't
you?

With
Date
Masa-
mune.



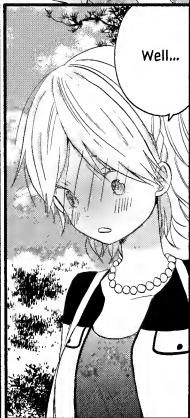
The schedule
says we're going
to be leaving early
in the morning,
but I was
thinking I'd stay
back and go to
Matsushima, too.

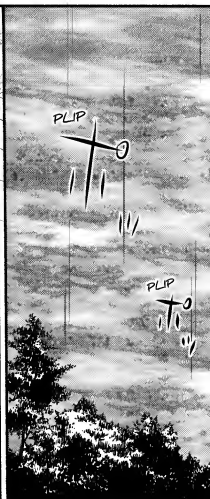
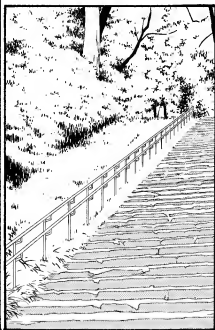


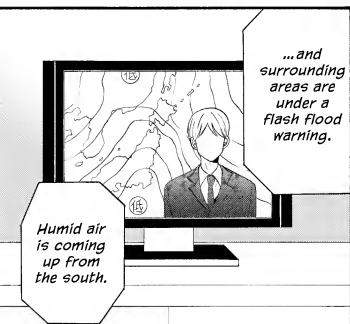


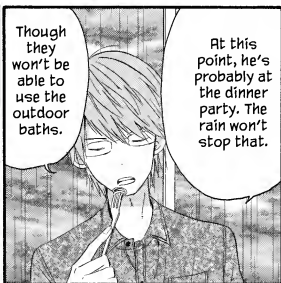
*Will I really be
able to confess
my feelings to
him like this?*

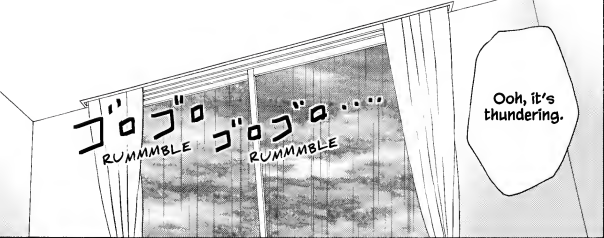
*This is
no good. I
haven't said
anything.*











Ooh, it's
thundering.



Don't be
scared,
it's okay.



C'mere,
Croquette.



Why did
you say you
wanted a huge
thunderstorm
to come,
anyway?



Hey...





Do you
like the
rain?

...



I hate
the rain.

Why
would I?



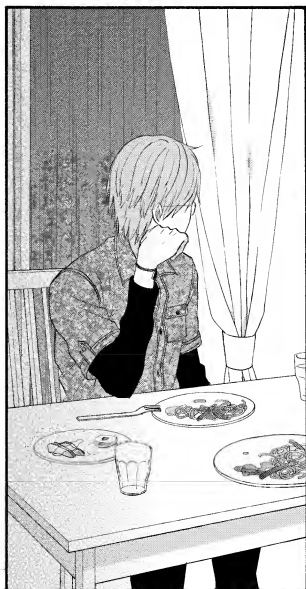
Y-you
hate the
rain that
much?



I wish
it'd never
rain
again.



You want
to come
over here,
too, Daiki?









Are you
really that
scared,
Daiki?

This is
embarrassing.



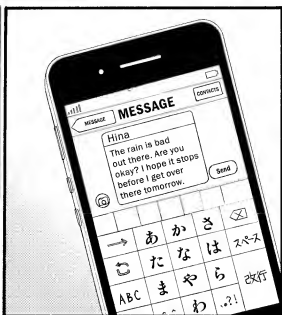
...



I'm
scared.



FSHHHH



It sure is. Wish we could've used the outdoor bath.

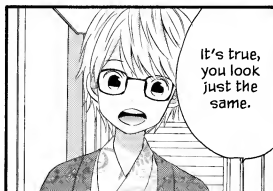
It's seriously coming down out there.

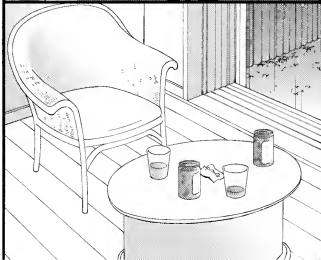


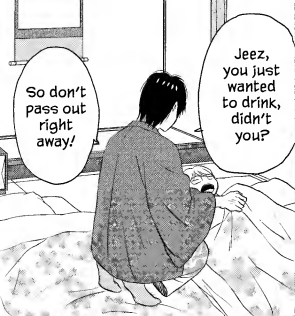
Yeah.

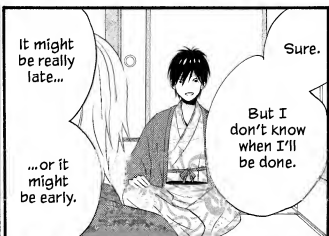
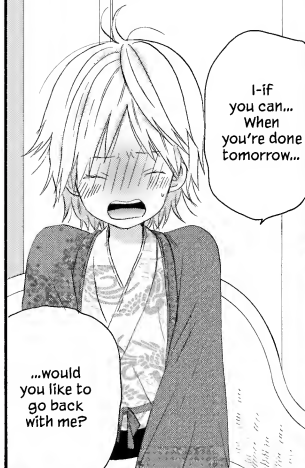
Whoo... That was a nice bath.

Let's head out, Nakamura.











Yeah.



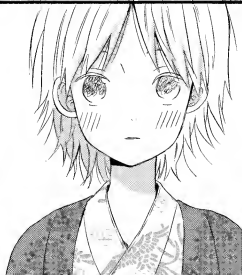
It's really
raining
out
there.

I'm
worried
about
everyone
back
home.



...and
Mao-
san.

Your
brother...





...what it
is you're
planning...

May I
ask...

...for
tomorrow?



Yes.



Does it
have to
do with
Mao-san?



I'm
going
to sleep
soon,
too.

Sugi-
moto-
san...

...it's
getting late,
shouldn't
you go to
your room?



I'm
going to
see my
sister.

Mao?

No, it
doesn't.



Just
a bit
longer.



There's
something
I want to
talk to you
about.

Can I
just stay
for a little
longer?



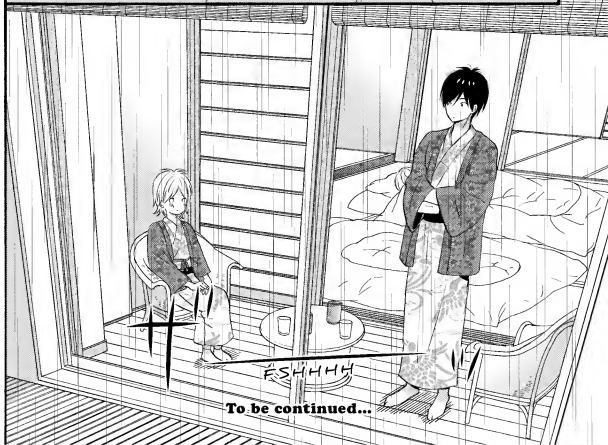
I'd like
to get to
know you
more.

And I
want to
talk to
you more.



*...think that lady
has a thing for
you, Hiro.*

*Mao and
I both...*



FSHHHH

To be continued...





Underaged drinking is against the law.





The hell?
You two
smell like
alcohol!

What's
wrong
with this
restaurant?

Don't let
underage
kids
drink!



...Met.

Hail
and
well
met!



Hmmm...

Are you
a cheap
drunk,
too?

Daiki's
drunk...

That's
kind of
lame.

Shut
up!

I don't
think he's
okay.



HMMM...

Don't do
stupid
random
stuff!

What
are you
doing,
Daiki?
Are you
okay?

We
thought
it was
water,
but it
was
sake.







Are you kidding?

It's no use. I'll just have to work like this.

Party of two, seating now!



What do you mean, "yep"?!
Go do your job!

Let her go!

Yep, Mao's way cuter than Chonname.



Hiro seems unhappy...



Hiro's... jealous?!

Don't tell me...



HUH?





*...certainly
a blessing.*

*Well,
this is...*



A casual
ad all of a
sudden?!

I'm gonna
be in it, too.
Akabane-san
does my
voice!

Please
buy the
special-
edition
volume
that
includes
the CD!

This mood
makes me
feel like we
might have
a special
drama CD
on the way!



Hail
and well
met!!

Oh,
Hiro's
here.



Huh?

Extra Chapter/End

*I'm a
member of
the Nakamura
family.*



*Hello,
I'm Croquette.*

▲ EXTRA CHAPTER ② ▲ The Dog and Her Home

*But I
hate it
when she
kisses
on me.*

SNOOOO



*I love Mao
because
she gives
me all
sorts of
weird-
looking
food.*

*Just being
near you a
little bit is
how Shibas
show they
love you.*



*Daiki takes
care of me
when we're
alone, but he
also mostly
leaves me
alone, and I
love that.*

*But I hate
it when he
holds me.*

*The one in
charge of the
house is Hiro, and
I love him best.*



Because everyone else is looking forward to meeting her.

But I'm looking forward to meeting her someday.

I haven't yet met the little sister, Hina-chan.

It seems like there's one more member of this family.



There used to be a mom and a dad in this house.

And there are two more.



I don't think that can happen, though.

Daiki and Hiro talk about them very wistfully, so I'd like to meet them someday.

I don't know them.

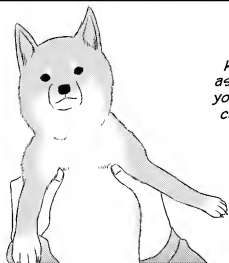


*I know
that all
three of
them are
sad.*

*I just know
that they've gone
to somewhere far,
far away.*



*But I've been in
this place for as
long as I've known.
I'm not happy or
sad or anything.*

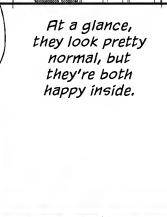
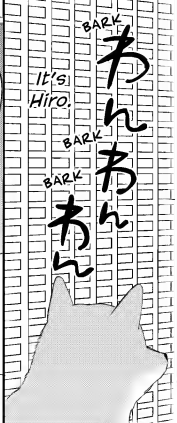


*Hiro always
asks me, "Are
you happy you
came here?"*

This is my home.



*Shiba's Feelings



*We can all
be together
all day.*

*So I love
the days no one
has to leave.*

*I wonder
why she
says that...*

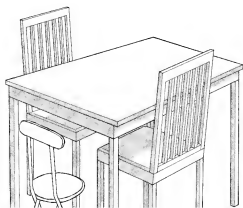
*Sometimes Mao
holds me tight
and says, "I'm
going to have to
leave you, too,
Croquette."*

*I don't
understand.*

*So why
does she
talk like
that?*

*...this is Mao's
home, too.*

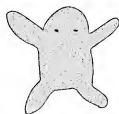
*Just like this
is my home...*



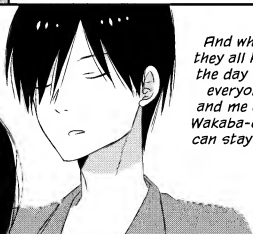
*...I love it
best when
we're all
together.*

*And what
I said
before is
still true...*

*Because I love the
weird-shaped treats
Mao gives me...*



*...and eat
snacks and
take naps.*



*And when
they all have
the day off,
everyone
and me and
Wakaba-chan
can stay in...*

*And that's
a promise.*



Forever.

*Radical-san has
hardened her resolve...*

...While
we're in
Sendai.

...that
I like
him...

I have
to tell
him...

I just
have to...



There's
something
I want to
talk to you
about.

Can I
just stay
for a little
longer?

And finally...

*Has the
time come for
her to make
her feelings
about Hiro
known?!*



And back at home, where
Daiki and Mao are all alone...

Daiki is...?!



And what will happen...



...to Mao's love?



*...what
will
change
?!*



*And
when
Hiro
meets
Hina...*

HOUSE^{of} the SUN 8

Popular right now!



*Hmph.
This
is not
a bad
turn of
events.*

House of the Sun 7

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Translation by Abby Lehrke

Lettering by Noelle Yamagami

Editing by Jesika Brooks

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